



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Aging and Adult Services

2405 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2405  
Courier 56-20-25 Phone 919-733-3818 Fax 919-715-0023

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Karen E. Gottovi, Director  
(919) 733-3983

October 13, 2004

Dear County Director of Social Services:

**Attention: Adult Services Supervisors and Special Assistance and Adult Medicaid Supervisors**

We know that you share our enthusiasm about the recent major expansion in eligibility and coverage under the North Carolina Senior Care program. These changes will greatly benefit virtually all of your dual eligible applicants and clients who do not qualify for full Medicaid prescription drug coverage. They will substantially reduce their out-of-pocket costs for a full range of prescription drugs and insulin. We would like to make it as easy as possible for you and your staff to provide a Senior Care application to each person who may be eligible for this program, so that they can enroll as soon as possible.

These Senior Care improvements include the following highlights:

- No restrictions on eligibility or covered drugs based on diagnosis. All conditions will be covered;
- Total benefits of \$2400 thru the end of 2005 including \$1,200 through the end of 2004 and another \$1,200 for calendar year 2005. In addition, any unused benefits in 2004 will be carried over to 2005; and
- Co-payments of 5 to 10 percent, depending on income;
- Seniors below 135% of poverty, who are eligible for Medicare Discount Card transitional assistance, will get one easy to use card that covers both the Medicare and the state Senior Care benefit.

We appreciate how busy you and your staff are in meeting the needs of your clients. At the same time, we would like to request that you consider asking your staff to make a Senior Care application available to any client who is age 65 or older who may qualify for this program. Supplies of applications may be obtained by calling the Senior Care Call Center at 866-226-1388.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen E. Gottovi".

Karen E. Gottovi, Director  
Division of Aging and Adult Services

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pheon E. Beal".

Pheon E. Beal, Director  
Division of Social Services

KEG/PEB:sm

AFS-16-2004